Dr. Pauling Given Award Twice Denied in Nixon Era

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Ford presented the highest U.S. scientific award Thursday to 13 men, including Dr. Linus Pauling, a two-time Nobel Prize winning chemist whose criticism of U.S. foreign and nuclear policy kept him from getting the same honor twice during the Nixon administration.

Mr. Ford, presenting the National Medals of Science in a brief noontime ceremony in the White House East Room, told about 200 guests that "we owe a great debt" to the men for work "that has touched and enriched the lives of all of us."

Pauling, 74, now a professor at Stanford University, was the next to last to receive his medal and, after shaking hands enthusiastically with Mr. Ford, smiled broadly.

Pauling was one of nine professors honored Thursday. The others were physicist Nicolaas Bloembergen of Harvard University; biophysicist Britton Chance of the University of Pennsylvania: biochemist Erwin Chargaff of Columbia University; chemist Paul J. Flory of Stanford; physicist William A. Fowler of the California Institute of Technology; mathematician Kurt Godel of Princeton University; geneticist James Van Gundia Neel of the University of Michigan, and chemist Kenneth S. Pitzer of the University of California at Berkeley.

The four other winners were Rudolf Kompfner, director of research for Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc., Holmdel, N.J.; Ralph B. Peck, a consulting foundation engineer in Albuquerque, N.M.; James A. Shannon, special adviser to the president of Rockefeller University in New York City, and Abel Wolman, a retired professor of sanitary engineering at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

The awards were based on recommendations by a special 13-member advisory group. Pauling received such recommendations twice during Richard M. Nixon's Presidency, but the White House refused to give him the award.

Pauling won the Nobel Prize for chemistry in 1954 for his discovery of the "chemical bond" of force that holds molecules together. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1962. He also on a "Presidential Medal of Merit" in 1948 for his work on explosives and other projects during World War II. He received the Soviet Union's Lenin Peace Prize in 1970.

During the McCarthy era, he was accused of being a Communist sympathizer and, over the years, he became a prominent critic of U.S. foreign policy—particularly during the Vietnam war.

He once unsuccessfully sued the Defense Department and the Atomic Energy Commission to try to halt nuclear testing. Because of his actions, the State Department even refused to issue him a passport in 1952 and 1953—relenting only after he won the Nobel Prize a year later.